

Message Text

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71

ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 CEQ-02 COA-02 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04

IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEA-02 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20

DOT-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 /207 W

----- 018406

R 232226Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0192

INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 4041

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, PE, EC, CI

SUBJ: U.S.-PERUVIAN FISHERIES TALKS AND THE CEP
TRIANGLE

REF: LIMA 3727, 2072, 1856, 1568; STATE 80487,
SANTIAGO 715

1. AMBASSADOR ANTONIO BELAUNDE, CHIEF, MARITIME SOVEREIGNTY
FOREIGN MINISTRY, TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER, ON HIS OWN VOLITION,
THAT HE PERSONALLY FAVORS INFORMAL BILATERAL TALKS ON
INTERIM SETTLEMENT OF TUNA FISHERIES ISSUE. EMBASSY OFFI-
CER INQUIRED WHETHER BELAUNDE, WHO NEW TO HIS JOB, AWARE
THAT THIS ISSUE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED BETWEEN MINISTER DE LA
FLOR AND FORMER AMBASSADOR BELCHER. BELAUNDE SAID HE HAD NOT
BEEN APPRISED OF THESE DISCUSSION. BELAUNDE SAID THAT A BRAZILIAN-
TYPE AGREEMENT MIGHT OFFER MEANS OF REACHING ACCORD.

EMBASSY OFFICER DID NOT PURSUE MATTER
FURTHER EXCEPT TO SAY THAT AMBASSADOR DEAN PLANNED RAISE
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THIS QUESTION AT HIGHEST LEVELS OF FOREIGN MINISTRY AT

SOME SUITABLE OCCASION.

2. BELAUNDE THEN COMMENTED THAT ANY BILATERAL INTERIM AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE APPROVED BY ECUADORIANS, WITHIN CONTEXT OF CEP ARRANGEMENTS. ECUADORIANS COULD POSE PROBLEMS, SINCE THEY ARE NOW IN PROCESS OF "MODIFYING" THEIR TERRITORIAL SEA CONCEPT (HE DID NOT ELABORATE). IN REGARD TO CHILE, BELAUNDE SAID THAT FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES CHILE HAS IN EFFECT DROPPED ITS CLAIM TO ABSOLUTE SOVEREIGNTY OVER ITS 200 MILES, AS ANNOUNCED BY CHILEAN AMBASSADOR TO SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION MEETING IN QUITO EARLIER THIS YEAR. CHILE HAS NOT MADE PUBLIC FUSS OVER ITS CHANGE TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO ALL PARTIES, BUT PERU REALIZES FULL WELL THAT CHILE HAS SWITCHED ITS POSITION. PERU REGRETS THIS MOVE, WHICH WAS NOT ENTIRELY UNEXPECTED. CONSEQUENTLY, BELAUNDE FORESAW NO PROBLEM IN CHILEANS AGREEING TO EVENTUAL U.S-PERUVIAN BILATERAL INTERIM ARRANGEMENT. (BELAUNDE COMMENTED THAT CHILE HAS LOST INTEREST IN ABSOLUTE 200-MILE CLAIM SINCE WHALING HAS DECLINED WITHIN CHILEAN WATERS. CHILE HAS NO TUNA, AND ONLY SMALL AMOUNT OF OTHER FISH, AND THEREFORE HAS NO UNDERLYING ECONOMIC NECESSITY TO MAINTAIN ITS 200-MILE CLAIM.)

3. EMBASSY OFFICER STRESSED TO BELAUNDE HIS COMMENTS DID NOT CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL INQUIRY ON PART OF EMBASSY ABOUT RENEWING BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. BELAUNDE SAID HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD THIS POSITION, BUT WOULD INFORM HIMSELF ABOUT PERUVIAN VIEWS SO THAT MINISTRY WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO RESPOND AS POSITIVELY AS POSSIBLE WHEN OCCASION ARISES.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY SOMEWHAT SURPRISED THAT BELAUNDE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN CONSERVATION AGREEMENT IDEA WHICH WE UNDERSTAND PERUVIANS REJECTED DURING DISCUSSIONS IN BUENOS AIRES IN 1971. HOWEVER, IT MAY NOT BE TOO EARLY TO CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF RAISING THIS SUBJECT AGAIN WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SINCE IT PREFERABLE TO DISCUSS THE FISHERIES ISSUE AS FAR IN ADVANCE OF TUNA SEASON AS POSSIBLE. ALTHOUGH ON THE ONE HAND, WE DO NOT WISH TO GIVE PERUVIANS (OR ANYONE ELSE) THE IDEA THAT
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CARACAS LOS CONFERENCE WILL NOT PRODUCE MUCH (SEE STATE 67032), ON OTHER HAND SHOULD CARACAS NOT PROVIDE FOR FIRM ARRANGEMENTS ON FISHERIES ISSUE WE COULD FIND OURSELVES FACING ANOTHER CONFRONTATION WITH PERU NEXT DECEMBER.
DEAN

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